

CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE  
ON DISARMAMENT

ENDC/PV.306  
20 June 1967  
ENGLISH

THE UNIVERSITY  
OF MICHIGAN

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COLLECTION

FINAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTH MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on Tuesday, 20 June 1967, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. W.C. FOSTER (United States of America)

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

Brazil:

Mr. A.F. AZEREDO da SILVEIRA  
Mr. S. de QUEIROZ DUARTE

Bulgaria:

Mr. K. CHRISTOV  
Mr. B. KONSTANTINOV  
Mr. T. DAMIANOV

Burma:

U MAUNG MAUNG  
U KYAW MIN

Canada:

Mr. E.L.M. BURNS  
Mr. C.J. MARSHALL  
Mr. J.R. MORDEN

Czechoslovakia:

Mr. P. WIMKLER  
Mr. V. VAJNAR

Ethiopia:

Mr. B. ASSFAW

India:

Mr. V.C. TRIVEDI  
Mr. K.P. JAIN

Italy:

Mr. F. CAVALLETTI  
Mr. G.P. TOZZOLI  
Mr. E. FRANCO

Mexico:

Mr. J. CASTANEDA  
Mr. F. CORREA

Nigeria:

Alhaji SULE KOLO  
Mr. B.O. TONWE

Poland:

Mr. J. GOLDBLAT  
Mr. E. STANIEWSKI

Romania:

Mr. N. ECOBESCO  
Mr. O. IONESCO  
Mr. C. GEORGESCO  
Mr. M. BUHOARA

Sweden:

Mrs. A. MYRDAL  
Mr. A. EDELSTAM  
Mr. R. BOMAN

Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics:

Mr. A.A. ROSHCHIN  
Mr. V.P. SUSLOV  
Mr. I.M. PALENYKH

United Arab Republic:

Mr. H. KHALLAF  
Mr. A. OSMAN

United Kingdom:

The Rt Hon. F. MULLEY  
Mr. I.F. PORTER  
Mr. R.I.T. CROMARTIE  
Mr. R.J. O'Neill

United States of America:

Mr. W.C. FOSTER  
Mr. G. BUNN  
Mr. C.G. BREAM  
Mr. C. GLEYSTEEN

Special Representative of the  
Secretary-General:

Mr. D. PROTITCH

Deputy Special Representative  
of the Secretary-General:

Mr. W. EPSTEIN

1. The CHAIRMAN (United States of America): I declare open the three hundred and sixth plenary meeting of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament.
2. I should like to take this opportunity, as Chairman for the day, to welcome to our Committee the new representative of the United Kingdom, the Rt Hon. Fred Mulley. Mr. Mulley has been chosen to lead his country's delegation at a key time in our negotiations. It is indicative of the importance which the British Government attaches to disarmament that it has again assigned one of its Ministers of State for Foreign Affairs to this vital task. In welcoming Mr. Mulley to our Committee I speak, I am confident, for all our members when I say that I am sure he will ably fulfil the responsibilities of the new and important assignment which he is about to begin. He can count upon our whole-hearted co-operation.
3. Mr. BURNS (Canada): Before beginning my prepared statement I should like to echo what the Chairman has just said in welcoming the Rt Hon. Fred Mulley as the new leader of the United Kingdom delegation. I cannot think of anything more appropriate to add to what the Chairman has said than that we, of what used to be called the Senior Dominion, are of course very happy to welcome the new leader of the delegation of the United Kingdom. We are sure that Mr. Mulley will have a great deal to contribute to our discussions and negotiations here, as all his predecessors have had.
4. In our discussions of the elements which should be included in a non-proliferation treaty, we have all made it clear that there should be reciprocal obligations of the nuclear Powers and the States not possessing nuclear weapons. In the course of debate representatives around this table have drawn our attention to the passage in General Assembly resolution 2028 (XX) which speaks of an "acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations of the nuclear and non-nuclear Powers". (ENDC/161)
5. In this context I quote the representative of Burma, U Maung Maung, who, on 21 March last said:

"... my delegation must repeat the much emphasized need for a balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations. Indeed, as all the representatives who have spoken before me have pointed out, a non-proliferation treaty in which such a logical basis was lacking or doubtful could not stand for long, if indeed it did not prove self-defeating." (ENDC/PV.295, para. 56)

(Mr. Burns, Canada)

6. At the same meeting the then representative of Mexico, Mr. Garcia Robles, expressed a practically unanimous view when he said:

"... the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons should not be considered as an end in itself but as a step towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament and more especially of nuclear disarmament" (ibid., para. 18)

7. Following this theme I should like to make a few remarks this morning on a particular measure which my Government believes would significantly slow down the nuclear arms race and constitute a move towards further nuclear disarmament. I refer to the cessation of the production of fissionable material and the reconversion or transfer to peaceful purposes of the present stockpiles of fissionable material for weapons use to be carried out under appropriate international control. This measure was generally referred to, for shortness, as "cut-off and reconversion", and more recently as "cut-off and transfer". If, following agreement on a non-proliferation treaty, the nuclear Powers would adopt this measure, it would demonstrate that they too would carry on the movement in the direction of nuclear disarmament. This would encourage and reassure the signatories to the treaty who, not possessing nuclear armaments, had agreed to continue to forgo possession of them. It would also be a step towards carrying out the United Nations recommendations to us to discuss and reach agreement upon collateral measures of disarmament.

8. Since it has been some time since the Committee last discussed this matter it might be useful for me to review briefly the history of proposals for the cut-off and reconversion. We must go back to the United Nations in 1957 when, on 29 August, a Western working paper (DC/113, annex 5) was presented. The cut-off was again included in a Western five-year plan for general and complete disarmament (TNCD/3) presented to the Ten-Nation Committee on Disarmament in 1960. In 1960 also the United States proposed at the United Nations Disarmament Commission that it and the Soviet Union should both shut down plants producing fissionable material (DC/PV.66, para. 66). In 1963 the United States pressed its proposals for a cut-off and reconversion but modified them to involve a weighted transfer of 60,000 kilograms of U-235 by the United States as against 40,000 kilograms by the Soviet Union. (ENDC/PV.151, pp. 11, 12).

(Mr. Burns, Canada)

9. On 21 January 1964 the United States once again introduced its proposals for cut-off and transfer in President Johnson's message to the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament (ENDC/120) and also embarked on a unilateral programme of reduction of production of fissionable material, announcing that it would be willing to go on from these cut-backs to verified step-by-step shutdowns of plants producing fissionable material resulting in a complete cut-off.

10. Finally the United States returned to its proposals at our meeting of 8 March 1966, then and during subsequent meetings it expanded on progress that had been made in formulating adequate verification measures for the implementation of the cut-off and transfer.

11. We recall also that the Joint Memorandum of the eight non-aligned nations of 19 August 1966 contained the following statement:

"The eight delegations reaffirm their conviction, stated in their earlier memorandum<sup>1/</sup>, that the treaty should be coupled with or followed by tangible steps to halt the nuclear arms race and to limit, reduce and eliminate the stocks of nuclear weapons and the means of their delivery.

"The eight delegations have individually put forward a number of suggestions as to such tangible steps, including a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapon testing," -- and I underline the following phrase -- "a complete cessation of production of fissionable material for weapon purposes, both in themselves effective non-proliferation measures ..." (ENDC/178, p. 3)

12. We also call the Committee's attention to the very illuminating discussion of how this measure could be brought into force contained in Mrs. Myrdal's statement of 11 August 1966 (ENDC/FV.281). The statement is so closely reasoned and woven together in all its parts that it did not seem feasible to me to extract a paragraph or so for quotation. But I suggest to my colleagues that a re-reading of that statement will remind us of the practical possibilities of implementing the proposal -- a proposal which would do much to initiate the "balance of obligations" mentioned in A/RES/2028 (XX) and in so many speeches since then.

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<sup>1/</sup> ENDC/158

(Mr. Burns, Canada)

13. There are two features about these joint proposals -- cut-off and reconversion, or cut-off and transfer -- which the Canadian delegation finds particularly attractive, apart from their intrinsic value as arms control measures.

14. First, the rest of the world would benefit from the distribution of a large quantity of reconverted highly enriched uranium. Canada has had a certain amount of experience in the field of assistance to developing countries, including assistance in the civil nuclear field. We are therefore aware of the benefits which nuclear energy can bring in the sphere of economic and social development.

15. Secondly, the verification procedures which have been worked out by the United States for initiating the cut-off are relatively simple and unobtrusive. I do not propose to discuss in detail the various systems of control for the destruction of weapons and the monitoring of shut-down nuclear reactors and other facilities involved in the cut-off. The details can be found in documents ENDC/134, 172, 174 and 176. These systems appear to us to be quite adequate while, at the same time, minimizing any possibility of inspection being used to the detriment of a country's security. There would be only three kinds of inspection:

- (a) to detect resumption of activity in a shut-down plant;
- (b) to detect production over the agreed amounts at declared plants; and
- (c) to prevent clandestine production at undeclared plants.

There would be three types of plants inspected:

- (a) U-235 separation plants;
- (b) reactors also producing fissionable material;
- (c) chemical separation plants.

16. Despite the possibilities which many delegations feel to be inherent in these proposals for progress towards disarmament and a better and more prosperous world, the Soviet Union's reaction, unfortunately, has consistently been negative. Soviet Union representatives have in the past characterized these proposals as "control without disarmament" and objected to aspects of the plants which would require revealing the location of plants producing fissionable material and opening them for inspection. They have also argued that these measures will not result

(Mr. Burns, Canada)

in a significant reduction of nuclear arsenals. On this latter point, we share the view of the representative of the United States, Mr. Fisher, who made the following comment on 8 March 1966:

"The proposition that this does not involve real reduction in armaments seems to me to be doubtful as a question of mathematics and, even more so, as a question of nuclear physics. The weapons are destroyed, the materials from them are put to peaceful uses, and the grim factories that might manufacture replacements for those materials are either stilled or converted to producing material which would not be used in weapons. Of course, we know that even after a reduction of this magnitude in nuclear stockpiles the amounts remaining will still be very large; but we shall have made a substantial start in reducing them". (ENDC/PV.246, p. 34)

17. The Canadian delegation can also subscribe to Mr. Foster's remarks on 14 April 1966, when he said:

"Most delegations here have acknowledged the importance of the cut-off and weapons destruction measure: but some delegations have voiced opinions that would seem to deny that what we are proposing is significant. To assert that the cut-off, transfer, and weapons destructions proposal 'has nothing in common with disarmament' amounts to stating that slowing down has nothing to do with stopping. Had the cut-off of production of fissionable materials been negotiated when it was first proposed, the United States arsenal of weapons today would have been a fraction of its present size. Without a halt in the near future, nuclear stockpiles are bound to grow ever larger, adding to the vast amounts of potential death and destruction." (ENDC/PV.256, p. 12)

18. We hope it will be possible for the Soviet Union to examine anew the objection it has been raising to this measure, which we see as one possibility for slowing down the arms race. It seems to the Canadian delegation to be most important that this Committee should devote itself to finding first or partial steps like the cut-off and transfer which will start us on the road to nuclear disarmament, the most important element of general and complete disarmament.



(Mr. Burns, Canada)

19. At one period the Soviet Union seemed to favour, in principle, reducing the production of fissionable material for warlike purposes. I shall read an extract from Mr. Tsarapkin's statement made on 21 April 1964. He, in turn, was quoting from a statement by Mr. Khrushchev, then Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union:

"Now the time has come when an opportunity has emerged to take steps to reduce the production of fissionable materials for military purposes. The Soviet Government has considered the question of to what extent in the present correlation of nuclear power in the world arena our country can go in this direction without in any way weakening the defence capacity of the Soviet Union and the solidity of the nuclear missile shield which reliably safeguards the security of all the countries of the socialist community.

"Having carefully weighed up all the data relating to the nuclear potentials of the Soviet Union, on the one hand, and of the nuclear Powers -- members of NATO, on the other, and having analysed all the circumstances of the matter, the Soviet Government has taken the following decision:

"1. To stop straightaway the construction of two new large atomic reactors for the production of plutonium.

"2. During the next few years to reduce substantially the production of uranium-235 for nuclear weapons.

"3. To allocate accordingly more fissionable materials for peaceful uses -- in atomic power stations, in industry, agriculture, medicine and in the implementation of major scientific-technical projects, including the distillation of sea water.

"The President of the United States of America, Mr. L. Johnson, and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Sir Alexander Douglas-Home, have informed me that they will make announcements on the practical measures in regard to reducing the production of fissionable materials for military purposes, which will be taken accordingly by the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

(Mr. Burns, Canada)

"We are confident that this new step, although it still does not represent actual disarmament, will be appreciated by the peoples as a continuation of the policy adopted in concluding the treaty banning nuclear weapon tests and that it will help towards further improving the international situation.'" (ENDC/PV.185, p. 13)

20. It appears, of course, that the Soviet Union's views on this question have changed since the statement I have quoted was made. However, I think it may give us some hope that what the leaders of the Soviet Union approved once other leaders may approve again.

21. Looking through some of the Soviet Union representative's statements I noted one general objection he had raised to certain collateral measures proposed by the United States and supported by other participants in this Conference. This objection applied to the cut-off as well as to other collateral measures. Let me quote what Mr. Roshchin, the Soviet Union representative, said at our meeting of 9 August 1966:

"The Soviet delegation has repeatedly explained that international inspections could be used to gather military information of interest to a potential aggressor. Whatever may be the method of carrying out such inspections, and whatever precautions may be taken, it cannot be denied that an obligation in regard to the carrying out of inspections would enable various kinds of 'inspection' teams to obtain access to the territory of a State without any necessity. States and peoples, especially those which more than once within the lifetime of one generation have borne the heavy consequences of foreign aggression, cannot and must not show unconcern and complacency in questions of their security. They will certainly not assume an obligation to open their territories to inspection, for which there is no necessity."

(ENDC/PV.280, p. 18)

22. When Mr. Roshchin relates the particular concern of the Soviet Union over matters of security to the heavy sacrifices which his country made in the First and Second World Wars --- and in both of these wars it was an ally of my own

(Mr. Burns, Canada)

country -- we must respect that viewpoint. We can understand the feelings of the peoples of the Soviet Union in this matter, their intense desire for peace, their determination to avoid the recurrence of war, from which they have suffered so much. However, we should like to put this point to the Soviet Union delegation. Before both the World Wars the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Russian Empire, its predecessor, practised a system of great secrecy or security in regard to all military and many other matters, but that system of secrecy did not succeed in preventing war. In fact, many would argue that it was a factor in developing suspicions and tensions which were a cause of war, or which were put to use by aggressors as an excuse for going to war.

23. I should like to suggest that the idea of an extremely rigid and far-reaching system of concealing information about all defence and military matters is not nowadays, and was not in the past, a guarantee of a nation's security. When countries which are military rivals or potential opponents think there is a military secret somewhere which may affect their security, they are going to use all methods to try to find it out -- and generally they will succeed after a greater or lesser period. The business of military information-seeking of course adds to tension and suspicion.

24. Let me apply those general remarks on the question of military security to the verification of a proposal to cut off the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes. What information would be given away by imposing the kind of controls suggested by Mr. Fisher in his statement at our meeting of 11 August 1966 (ENDC/PV.281, pp 12 et seq.)? Is it likely that the location of nuclear reactors and facilities for production of fissionable material in the Soviet Union is unknown at present? What secret dangerous to the safety of the Soviet Union would be given away if the kind of verification proposed were put into effect?

25. The delegation of Canada believes that one of the great difficulties that we face in our efforts to achieve disarmament is the persistence of the outdated ideas held in certain military circles -- and not in Soviet Union military circles alone -- concerning the paramount necessity of preserving military secrets. Those outdated ideas place obstacles in the way of disarmament proposals. In particular, that part of the statement made by the representative of the Soviet Union at our 280th meeting which I have quoted indicates that the insistence on military secrecy is an important obstacle to the adoption of the cut-off.

26. In closing I would express the hope again that the authorities of the Soviet Union may reconsider their attitude to that proposal which, in the opinion of Canada, covers one of the most easily applied possible measures leading towards more general disarmament -- measures which should follow if we are successful in agreeing upon a non-proliferation treaty.

27. Mr. CAVALLETTI (Italy) (translation from French): With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I should like to inform the Committee very briefly of a personal matter.
28. My Government has appointed me to other diplomatic functions. My successor has already been designated and will come to Geneva as soon as possible to head the Italian delegation. Provisionally, our delegation will be headed by my deputy, Mr. Tozzoli. Today, therefore, I take leave of all the delegations around this table, of the representatives of the Secretary-General and of all those who are taking part in this Conference.
29. I leave you with sincere regret at not being able to continue to take part in the important and interesting task which we have shared and at having to interrupt the personal contacts which I have valued so highly. It is with a feeling of very sincere friendship that I say good-bye to all my colleagues: in the first place, to the two co-Chairmen who, with their authority and their very great competence, have taken upon themselves the most onerous and the most difficult part of our work, engaging in a highly appreciated and praiseworthy activity.
30. My greetings go next to my closest friends, the heads of the Western delegations -- and particularly to you, Mr. Chairman -- with whom I have worked together day by day and who have so generously given me their support and advice.
31. I see that today the delegation of the United Kingdom is headed for the first time by its new chief, the Minister of State, Mr. Fred Mulley. I should like to welcome him most warmly and to wish him success in his work in this Committee.
32. In regard to Ambassador Roshchin and other colleagues from the socialist countries, I should like to say that, while I have not always been in agreement with them, I have always appreciated their high qualities of frankness and straightforwardness, so that our differences of view have never become polemical and the search for agreement has been facilitated.
33. Lastly, I should like to thank the representatives of the non-aligned countries. Their role, as we have always stated, is of fundamental importance. The suggestions which I have received from them have always been valuable. Over the years I have formed ties of friendship with many of them, and I should like to pay a tribute particularly at this time to my neighbour here, Ambassador Trivedi, whose constructive eloquence I have appreciated, and to my colleagues from Latin America, Ambassadors Azeredo da Silveira and Castañeda, with whom I have always found myself in friendly accord.

(Mr. Cavalletti, Italy)

34. To the co-Chairmen and to all my colleagues who will be continuing our common task I express my hope that they will achieve complete success -- the success for which their efforts have paved the way and which their goodwill deserves.

35. Important landmarks have been established, the ground has been prepared. Your resolve to move forward, my dear colleagues, and your desire for peace will overcome the obstacles that remain. That is the very sincere wish that I express at this time.

36. Before I conclude may I also thank most warmly my two very dear friends in the Secretariat, Mr. Protitch and Mr. Epstein, who combine with the complete objectivity of their services a sincere enthusiasm for the cause of disarmament. I also thank all those who work with them.

37. Success to you all in your work! Please go on thinking of me as one of you in the work that you are carrying on. I shall retain a very warm remembrance of you all and shall continue to feel myself closely linked to your task, which is the task of striving for the security of the peoples and of peace.

38. Mr. ROSHCHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translation from Russian): On behalf of a number of delegations in the Eighteen-Nation Committee, as co-Chairman and also on behalf of the Soviet delegation, I should like to express our regret at the fact that the representative of Italy, Ambassador Cavalletti, is to leave his post as representative of his country in our Committee as a result of his having been given a new assignment by his Government.

39. We know Mr. Cavalletti as one of the most well-informed, experienced participants, I would say, a veteran participant in the disarmament negotiations who for more than five years has constantly represented his country in the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament and has also on numerous occasions taken part in the work and debates on disarmament matters at a number of sessions of the United Nations General Assembly. In expressing our good wishes to Mr. Cavalletti we should like to note with satisfaction that he has represented here in the Committee a country whose relations with the Soviet Union have in the past few years undergone certain changes in a positive direction; this has become manifest in the exchange of visits by statesmen of our two countries and in the ever expanding economic and cultural relations between the Soviet Union and Italy. We express the hope that the

(Mr. Roshchin, USSR)

co-operation between our two countries in the search for a solution to the problem of disarmament and to all the other problems connected with this most important international task will develop still further in the interest of ensuring international and European security.

40. Permit me, Mr. Cavalletti, to wish you every success, good health and prosperity in your career.

41. I should like to take this opportunity to join you, Mr. Chairman, in welcoming the new representative of the United Kingdom, the Minister of State, Mr. Fred Mulley.

42. Mr. BURNS (Canada): I think that all of us are very sorry indeed at the departure of our colleague, Mr. Cavalletti. Perhaps the only special thing I have to say on this occasion is that he and I are two leaders of delegations who have been here continuously since the beginning of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament. We were also members of our respective delegations at the Conference of the Ten-Nation Disarmament Committee in 1960. Consequently we have known one another a long time, and it is with the greatest regret that we pass from each other's sphere. I think that all of us have appreciated and will remember the interventions of Mr. Cavalletti. He has added something to our debates here which our meetings often lack, and that is the sense of immediate discussion of points raised. His extempore interventions at the end of our meetings have always helped to bring forward to us the essential points made in some of the speeches. While of course he has represented the viewpoint of his country, and generally that of the Western countries represented here, we have heard tributes to him from those States on the other side and from the non-aligned nations for having contributed greatly to the discussions we have held. His interventions, while extempore, were always lucid and logical and were founded on an extensive and exact knowledge of the proceedings of this Committee, as I said at the beginning. The Canadian delegation wishes Ambassador Cavalletti every success and every happiness in his new and important appointment.

43. Mr. AZEREDO da SILVEIRA (Brazil): I should like to say a few words on behalf of the eight non-aligned delegations and on my own behalf expressing the regret with which we have learned that Ambassador Cavalletti is leaving his post as head of the Italian delegation to the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament on his assignment to other important functions.

(Mr. Azeredo da Silveira, Brazil)

44. The contribution of the Italian delegation to the work of the Committee under the able guidance of Ambassador Cavalletti, his experience, his wisdom and his deep insight into the difficult task of dealing with disarmament problems has been very useful to the work of our Committee since its very first meeting. I am sure that I am interpreting the sentiments of the eight non-aligned delegations in heartily wishing Ambassador Cavalletti every success in his new assignment as we bid him farewell today.

45. The CHAIRMAN (United States of America): I too, Ambassador Cavalletti, as Chairman of the day and as one of the co-Chairmen, would like to add to the regretful comments that we have heard from some of our colleagues on your departure. Having heard your parting speech I join with Mr. Burns in recalling that you are an original member of this Committee, and we are very sorry indeed that you are leaving us although we recognize, of course, that your new position as Ambassador to Spain is a very important one for your country. All of us I am sure wish you well in your new mission.

46. But we cannot let you go without recalling in somewhat more detail than has already been set forth the contributions that you have made in this Committee during the last five years. As Mr. Burns said, you have been a member since the beginning, and during those five years you have on all occasions ably presented your own country's views. Not only have you done it in your own language, but you have been able to do it in the languages of a number of our other members. It is true also that you have been one who consistently urged us all to make greater and faster progress toward the many objectives which we have here.

47. I should like to add -- because I think this has been an unusual contribution that you have been able to make -- that you have been perhaps the wittiest of our members, and this has been a very useful function in moments which have been of considerable stress sometimes. You have never failed to remind us of what is relevant and you have brought us back to the point of discussion if we tended to wander. Your analysis of our problems has been acute and useful.

48. As you leave to take on other duties I know that these qualities of diplomatic skill -- your wit, your good nature and your keen analysis -- will do well for you in your new position. I was happy to note that in your remarks you said that you would always be, in essence, an alumnus of this organization and would follow our activities and, I hope, help them along wherever you are. Godspeed to you, Mr. Ambassador.

49. Mr. MULLEY (United Kingdom): First of all, I should like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the other representatives who have been kind enough to offer me such a warm welcome to this Committee. It is both an honour and a pleasure for me to enter your circle and I look forward to working with you for a purpose that is common to us all.

50. It is in a sense a rather nostalgic experience to be taking part here again in Geneva in this historic building in a Committee on disarmament after a gap of over thirty years. As a student I had the privilege of taking part in a conference here organized by the League of Nations.

51. That said, I shall be very brief, but perhaps as a British Minister newly charged with responsibility for disarmament affairs I should begin by re-affirming the continuity of British policy. My Government continues to support the speedy negotiation of a non-proliferation treaty for the benefit of all States which sign it, in a form which is acceptable to all States and particularly to those whose signature is important if the treaty is to be viable. I hope very much that a text can be tabled very soon. As soon as that is done -- and the sooner the better -- it will be necessary to have a full and detailed discussion of all aspects of the treaty. It seems to me extremely hard to get down to brass tacks without a text before us, but I believe that when it is tabled it will show that the restricted consultations that have taken place already have gone a long way to meet the legitimate concerns of all countries that the treaty should be a fair and balanced document pointing the way to real measures of disarmament and, above all, that it should be designed to stimulate peaceful nuclear development.

52. Finally, I am sorry that my own arrival should coincide with the departure of one of the most distinguished members of this Committee, Ambassador Cavalletti. I had the pleasure of meeting him only today for the first time, but I should like on behalf of members of the United Kingdom delegation who have had the privilege of working with Ambassador Cavalletti over the years to express our profound regret that he is leaving us. We have been reminded that he has participated in the work of this Committee from the very beginning. His long experience has been of inestimable value to the Committee in recent years, and his interventions have unfailingly contributed to the better understanding of the complicated problems involved. The felicity of his language and the skill of his argument have been much admired. The



(Mr. Mulley, United Kingdom)

United Kingdom delegation is losing moreover not only an esteemed colleague but a good friend. In leaving Geneva Ambassador Cavalletti takes with him our best wishes for his future. We wish him every success in the important post to which he is going.

53. Mr. CAVALLETTI (Italy) (translation from French): May I hold the attention of the Committee for a few moments longer so that I may once more thank the co-Chairmen and my colleagues for their goodwill towards me, their kindness and the good wishes they have expressed to me. You, Mr. Chairman, Ambassador Roshchin, Mr. Burns, Ambassador Azeredo da Silveira and Mr. Mulley have all spoken about me in terms as undeserved as they were generous and kind. All that you have said has touched me deeply. Once again, I thank you very sincerely.

The Conference decided to issue the following communiqué:

"The Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament today held its 306th plenary meeting in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, under the Chairmanship of Mr. William C. Foster, representative of the United States of America.

"Statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Italy, the Soviet Union, Brazil, the United States and the United Kingdom.

"The Committee expressed its good wishes to the representatives of Italy, H.E. Ambassador F. Cavalletti, on his departure for a new assignment.

"The next meeting of the Conference will be held on Thursday, 22 June 1967, at 10.30 a.m."

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.



CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE  
ON DISARMAMENT

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14 July 1967  
ENGLISH ONLY

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THE UNIVERSITY  
OF MICHIGAN

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Corrigendum

Page 7, paragraph 16, line 5 "plants" should read "plans";

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